



The School District of Osceola County, FL
Dr. Michael A. Grego, Superintendent

Press Release

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Osceola Schools To Be Proactive With H1N1 Flu Virus Approach When Students Return For Classes

The Osceola School District is taking a proactive and preventative approach to keeping our students and staff healthy as they return to a new school year. District officials are working closely with the Osceola County Health Department on recommendations from the Center for Disease Control on the H1N1 flu virus, commonly known as swine flu.

A parent letter from the Osceola County Health Department will be going home in the first-day-of-school packets which will provide general information on how to help keep children healthy. All district schools will promote "Healthy Habits", which include encouraging students and staff to wash hands frequently, cover coughs and sneezes, and the use of hand sanitizer. All district facilities will continue to utilize cleaning agents that have been approved by the Osceola County Department of Health. School and district officials will also be monitoring weekly attendance, as well as students and staff who may appear at school with flu-like symptoms.

The school district will continue to remind and encourage parents that the most effective way to help prevent the spread of any H1N1 influenza is to keep their child home if they are exhibiting any flu-like symptoms. Parents can also help in these efforts by reminding students to do the following:

- Wash their hands frequently with soap and water for approximately 20 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

- Cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze, and dispose of the tissue in the trash. If they don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve and not their hands.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who appears to have the flu.

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